

A LEISURE HOUR'S READING

LUX IN TENEBRAE

How sweet it was at dawn to find
The silver dew on the leaves;
Like Eden-blossoms, soft and sweet,
The wild rose buds clustering met.
From tender down to velvet down,
Soft tints of color piled and gloved,
On rock and tree and flower-tossing,
Through which the wind came ever blown.
From moss to moss, from leaf to leaf,
The sweetest of all scents were there,
From every side a shower of bliss,
A cloud of fragrance everywhere.
And now, at last, the air is free,
The sweetest of all scents are there,
On every side a shower of bliss,
A cloud of fragrance everywhere.
No help have I from star or sun,
From moon or fire or light or air,
And cold and bitter over my heart
The deadly waters rise and swirl.
But to a light on ocean's edge
Shines tremulous the light of day;
And back with red the glowing sun,
And warm the clouds are gay.
Alas! so tempest-tossed was I,
No blinding light of day or night,
White light, bewildering light,
And fog and darkness hid my way.
That if you light be ever more,
A brightening or a waning glow,
A smile of life, the newly-born,
Or torch of death, I may not know.
But ever toward that light I strive,
With steadfast gaze and willing soul,
For life or death, through faith or fear,
My only hope, my only goal.

—*Chas. W. Smith*

NEWSPAPER ENTERTAINMENT

Many readers will remember the pulsating anxiety of the public in the early days of October, 1880, when hope for the safety of the steamship Arctic faded gradually out. On the night of October 10, George M. Burns, a survivor from the lost ship, reached New York, and went to the Herald, knowing that that paper paid well for news. His narrative of the Arctic and put in type at a late hour—after three o'clock. The Herald's plan was to withhold their circulation until an hour at which no other sheet could reprint the story from its columns. A rumor of the arrival of a survivor reached the city editor of the Times, but his most trusted reporters worked until 2 A. M. and found nothing reliable. The forms of the Times were closed, and the city editor started for home, disheartened and weary, and to the painful tension of defeat. A few hours were passed, when a man jumped on the street car. He was sufficiently intoxicated to attempt familiarity with the conductor. The quick ears of the city editor caught the words "Arctic," and he was enough to get him out of bed at the top of his speed to the Times office, and shouted, "Stop the press!" A young man named South was called from the pressroom and promised \$500 if he could get the first copy of the Herald that came off the press. "Buy it, beg it, steal it, anything, so long as you get it!" exclaimed the city editor. All the Times composers were routed out of their beds by messengers, and stood at their cases, staring in hand, like the crew of a speedy and glorious vessel. Forty minutes after the press was stopped South came into the composing room, waving the wet sheet of the next morning's Herald overhead. A mighty shout arose. The story was given out in four-line "takes." In an hour it was all up, and the press again set to work. They ran without intermission until two o'clock in the afternoon to supply the demand. The Herald, not discovering the theft of the paper, adhered to the plan of withholding the city paper for no till seven o'clock, and then found the heavy edition dead on their hands. South got his \$500, and the salary of the city editor was increased.—*Pittsburgh Courier.*

THE JOURNALISTIC LIFE

The Boston Globe reporter as follows to a young man ambitious of becoming a journalist. It is hard to tell from this distance whether you are fitted for the hard life of newspaper writer or not. That is the only question to be decided, for qualification is vital in this business. You are prepared to rise from your bed as early as 10 A. M., in order that you may have finished reading your private mail by noon. Lunch is always paid for by the office, but you have got to accustom yourself to eat fast and eat only two kinds of wine—those papers that are three, including champagne, but they are the exceptions rather than the rule. At 2 P. M. you are expected to read the morning papers; and, if you are not too much exhausted by the effort, you can have a game of billiards, for no well-regulated newspaper office is without a well-appointed billiard room. At 7 P. M. you are expected to tell the city editor where you will spend the evening, so that he can send for you to case your friends call, and then you can go to the theatre, opera, ball or dog-fight, to which tickets and carriage will be provided. If you think you can stand such laborious work, come on and we will see what we can do for you; but you must understand that there is none of the luxury to which you have been accustomed in a newspaper office. Plain velvet carpets are good enough for this class of laborers; lounging chairs are, of course, indispensable, but they are upholstered in plain satin, with no tufting. Only one rubber desk and four gold pens are furnished by the office; if you need any more you will be expected to buy them yourself. Only one sofa and one silver drinking cup are allowed to each man, so you can see that there are some "backwaters" to be put up with.

TASTE FOR SCIENCE

A few days ago a Boston girl who had been attending the School of Philosophy at Concord arrived in Brookline on a visit to a seminary chum. After canvassing thoroughly the fun and gun dogs that made up their education in the seat of learning at which their early scholastic efforts were made, the Brookline girl began to inquire the nature of the Concord curriculum.
"And so you are taking lessons in philosophy. How do you like it?"
"Oh! it's perfectly lovely. It's about science, you know, and we all just do on science."
"It must be nice. What is it about?"
"It's about molecules as much as anything else, and molecules are just too awfully nice for anything. If there's anything I really enjoy it's molecules."
"Tell me about them, my dear. What are molecules?"
"Oh! molecules! They are little wee things, and it takes ever so many of them. They are splendid things! Do you know, there isn't anything but what's not molecules in it. And Mr. Cook is just as sweet as he can be, and Mr. Emerson, too. They explain everything so beautifully."

New Books.

1880.

WORTHIES OF SCIENCE.
By Rev. Dr. John Shughton of London. Fresh sketches of seventeen eminent men of genius, whom the world honors, and who are friends of Christianity. 12mo. 24 pp. \$1.50.
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